

MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE'S 250TH  
BIRTHDAY**HON. BOB ETHERIDGE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2007*

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the 250th birthday of Marquis de Lafayette. Fayetteville, NC, was named for Lafayette in 1783. It was the first town in America to be named for him and the only one visited by him on his tour of the United States in 1825.

Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de La Fayette, was born in Auvergne, France, on September 6, 1757. Although an aristocrat, Gilbert Lafayette became enamored of the American fight for independence. In 1777, at the age of 19, flaunting convention and royal edicts, he used his own funds to purchase and outfit a ship and sailed to America. He joined the American forces and became a lifelong friend of General George Washington. His enthusiasm for the cause of liberty and his courage in battle won him the admiration and friendship of soldiers, officers, and statesmen.

The youngest major general in the American army, Lafayette made a significant contribution to the defeat of the British forces under General Lord Charles Cornwallis at the Battle of Yorktown, VA, in 1781. Lafayette also accomplished much as a diplomat, persuading the Governors of independent colonies to provide food and supplies to a poorly clothed and starving Continental Army. He lobbied vigorously with the French court for more troops and ships for the American cause. The commitments he secured from France ultimately forced England to sue for peace.

Lafayette returned to France and continued his campaign for liberty. His involvement in the French Revolution caused his persecution by radicals on both sides. Imprisoned for 5 years in Prussia and Austria, his fame brought worldwide pressure for his release. As Lafayette's popularity grew, his views on liberty, religious tolerance, and the abolition of slavery became widespread.

Lafayette's popularity in America culminated with President Monroe issuing an invitation in 1824 for the general to visit the young country and witness the development of this experiment in democracy. His status as one of the last surviving members of the revolutionary leadership gave communities a reason to host elaborate receptions, dances, and ceremonies in his honor.

Madam Speaker, in 1825, the citizens of Fayetteville, NC, were honored by a 2-day visit from the famous French proponent of liberty, Marquis de Lafayette. In a speech of welcome, Judge John D. Toomer proclaimed, "Never, never can we forget the youthful stranger who, in the darkest hour of adversity, so generously flew to our succor, and so gallantly fought the battle of freedom." Marquis de Lafayette was a man who fought for our great Nation and left his mark on North Carolina, America, and the world.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SUSANNE  
MCKEON**HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2007*

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to pay tribute to Susanne McKeon, the Lower Southampton Township manager and the president of the Playwicki Farm Foundation. I share the grief felt by the entire community in the wake of Sue's passing, but it is important that in these trying moments we remember the tremendous legacy she leaves behind. Madam Speaker, Sue's work earned her the utmost admiration and respect from those she served, the goal of any public servant.

Sue became part of the Lower Southampton Board of Supervisors in 1984 and worked tirelessly to better the community. Serving as chairman and vice president, her leadership led the way for lasting successes for the township. She was a supervisor when in 1994 the Township finalized the purchase of the property from the estate of Elizabeth Snodgrass that preserved the last large area of open space in Lower Southampton. In September 1996, the Board of Supervisors established the Playwicki Farm Foundation and at its first meeting, Sue was elected president. She served in that capacity ever since. Her work was selfless as she strived to improve her township. She was extremely dedicated to her various roles in the community which has benefited greatly thanks to her efforts.

Her strong leadership started long before the Board of Supervisors. In the 1970s, she started the story hour at the Southampton Township library and served as a member of the library board. She was also a founding member of the "Friends of Lower Southampton Library" and the 2007 chairperson of the Bucks County Planning Commission. Sue's commitment to hard work and public service earned her the high esteem of those around her.

Sue was an advocate for her community, inspiring others to become leaders and devote time to their community in the way that she did. Sue is owed a debt of gratitude for her many years of service.

Madam Speaker, Susanne McKeon's legacy as a community leader is one her husband, children and grandchildren can be proud to carry on. Sue will be remembered for her devotion, selflessness and commitment to the residents of Lower Southampton Township in Bucks County, PA.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2007*

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, due to other congressional business, I unfortunately missed recorded votes on the House floor on Tuesday, September 4, 2007.

Had I been able to vote that day, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 847 and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 848 and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 849.

## HONORING ELIZABETH NORWORTH

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2007*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, it is a privilege for me to rise today and honor Mrs. Elizabeth Norworth. Mrs. Norworth, better known as "Betty," has been a dedicated federal employee with the Memphis Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the last 60 years. Her tenure with the FBI is the second longest in the 100-year history of the Bureau.

When Mrs. Norworth first joined the FBI in 1947, Harry S. Truman was our President, the CIA had just been created and the cold war was well under way. Like our Nation, Mrs. Norworth rose to the challenge of the times and met each day as a public servant through the embodiment of her beloved agency: fidelity, bravery and integrity. Thirteen years later, Mrs. Norworth would accept her current position as secretary to Special Agent in Charge where she received numerous accolades for her exceptional job performance. Throughout her years of service Mrs. Norworth has not only become a highly respected employee at the Bureau but she has become the embodiment of what a public servant should be.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me today in thanking "Betty" Norworth for her 60 years of service, sacrifice, and continued commitment to the United States.

TRIBUTE TO THE 50TH JUBILEE OF  
SISTER JOANNE CHIAVERINI**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2007*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sister Joanne Chiaverini as she celebrates her 50th Jubilee as a Sister Servant of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. A celebration will be held on Sunday, September 9, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Flint, Michigan.

Sister Joanne Chiaverini began her work with the Sisters Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary as an educator and worked in that capacity for 15 years, earning her Masters of Education in Theology from Marygrove College during this time. Her work involved preparing children for the sacraments. Often she would teach the parents as well as the children. With a desire to work with the poor and disadvantaged, Sister Joanne developed her talent for inner city ministry working during the 1960s at St. Agnes Parish in the heart of Detroit and she worked with Father Bill Cunningham when he founded Focus Hope after the 1967 riots.

Sister Joanne became a certified social worker in 1973. Working in the Flint area she has counseled parents and children caught in the nightmare of substance abuse, worked as a volunteer probation officer, worked coordinating the religious education of parents, catechists, and students. She was a pioneering member of the Flint Interfaith Alliance and brought the Project ARAB to parishes throughout the Diocese of Lansing.